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Attorney Docket Number: FSP0291
Application Number: 09/759,935

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-2-

Claims 1-41 (Cancelled)

42. (New) A video on demand system comprising:

a headend adapted to associate a different group identifier with each physical transmission path from the headend to each plurality of subscriber terminals in a common area or neighborhood;
the headend adapted to periodically transmit the group identifier for a particular group only along the associated physical transmission path;
the headend adapted to receive a request for video on demand data including a particular group identifier, to enable one or more modulators associated with the physical transmission path, and not others, to pass the video on demand data downstream, and to stream the video on demand data downstream.

43. (New) The headend of claim 42, further adapted to:

assign to the video on demand data a program slot associated with the one or more modulators and to communicate to the subscriber terminal, in response to the request, indications of a selected modulator and the assigned program slot.

44. (New) The headend of claim 42 further adapted to:

periodically communicate the group identifier to the plurality of subscribers as part of a program stream.

45. (New) The headend of claim 44 further adapted to:

periodically communicate the group identifier to the plurality of subscribers as part of an MPEG data program stream.